IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Josef Herrmann et al.

Serial No.

Filed

:

PCT NO. : PCT/EP2004/003449

IFD : April 1, 2004

TC/A.U.

Confirmation No:

Examiner

Docket No. : 05-493 Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's continued duty of disclosure, the following documents are brought to the Examiner's attention:

- (1) EP Patent No. 1 464 248;
- (2) DE Patent No. 43 05 369;
- (3) DE Patent No. 89 14 443.0;
- (4) EP Patent No. 0 325 923;
- (5) International Publication No. WO 96/00514;
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 5,549,779;
- (7) GB Patent No. 1 308 074;
- (8) CH Patent No. 24 16 76;
- (9) U.S. Patent No. 1,945,255;
- (10) U.S. Patent No. 4,413,921;
- (11) U.S. Patent No. 5,340,226;
- (12) U.S. Patent No. 5,957,607;
- (13) DE Patent No. 101 06 834;
- (14) DE Patent No. 27 18 957;

- (15) DE Patent No. 27 59 610;
- (16) DE Patent No. 27 59 856;
- (17) DE Patent No. 30 28 237;
- (18) DE Patent No. 40 05 894;
- (19) International Publication No. WO 96/00514; and
- (20) GB Patent No. 1 538 188.

A listing on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed along with a copy of the non-U.S. documents.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Josef Herrmann et al.

Gregory P. LaPoin

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No.: 28,395

Tel: (203) 777-6628 Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: August 25, 2005

I, Rachel Piscitelli, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on August 25, 2005.

DT09 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 AUG 2005

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO	Complete if Known		
	Application Number	10/54/201	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor Josef Herrmann		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Art Unit		
(Use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name		
Sheet 1 of 3	Attorney Docket Number	05-493	

			U. S. PATEN	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 5 540 770	00 07 1000	Charaldain	- Garage Appear
		^{US-} 5,549,779	08-27-1996	Stoecklein	
		^{US-} 1,945,255	01-30-1934	Camagni	
		^{US-} 4,413,921	11-08-1983	Fotiu et al.	
		^{US-} 5,340,226	08-23-1994	Griebel et al.	
		^{US-} 5,957,607	09-28-1999	Tsai	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-		1	
		US-			<u> </u>

		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	MENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵
		EP 1 464 248	06-10-2004	Herrmann et al.		
		DE 43 05 369	08-25-1994	Griebel et al.		
		DE 89 14 443.0	03-08-1990	Louis et al.		
		EP 0 325 923	08-02-1989	Chenal		
		WO 96/00514	01-11-1996	Balke et al.		
		GB 1 308 074	02-28-1973			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

DT09 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 AUG 2005

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031

05-493

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Attorney Docket Number

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known

Application Number
Filing Date

STATEMENT BY APPLICANT
(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Figure 1449/PTO

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Sheet |2

of 3

Examiner	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where
Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-			
		US-		·	
		US-			
		US-	-		
		US-		-	
		US-			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		US-			
		US-	 		
	 	US-	+		

		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	JMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
		CH 24 16 76	09-02-1946	Hablutzel		
		DE 101 06 834	12-06-2001	Tani et al.		
		DE 27 18 957	10-28-1980	Krueckel et al.		
		DE 27 59 610	08-26-1982			
		DE 27 59 856	04-11-1985			
		DE 30 28 237	02-25-1982	Hermatschweiler		

			_
Examiner	Date	1	
Signature	Considered		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

DT09 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 AUG 2005

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	10/5/7201
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date	10/24/201
	First Named Inventor	Josef Herrmann -
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Art Unit	
(Use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	
Sheet 3 of 3	Attorney Docket Number	05-493

			U. S. PATENT D	OCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant
		Number-Kind Code ^{2 (# known)}		<u> </u>	Figures Appear
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
•		US-			
	_	US-	 		
	 	US-	+		
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-	- 		
		US-			
	 	US-	 		
		US-	+		

			IGN PATENT DOCL			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	1
		DE 40 05 894	12-12-1991	Krueckel et al.		
		WO 96/00514	01-11-1996	Balke et al.	-	
		GB 1,538,188	01-10-1979			
				·		

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND** TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.